

Sir:

Prior to examining the present patent application, kindly amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

After the title and before the "Field of the Invention", kindly add the following paragraph:

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application 10/021,586 filed on December 12, 2001 which is a continuation of U.S. patent application 09/635,892 filed August 10, 2000, now U.S. Patent 6,615,079 which is a division of application number 09/189,170 filed on November 9, 1998, now Patent No. 6,148,232.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Kindly cancel claims 2-50, inclusive, without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Original) A device for ablating the stratum corneum epidermidis of a subject, comprising:
  - a plurality of electrodes, which are applied to the subject's skin at respective points; and
  - a power source, which applies electrical energy between two or more of the plurality of electrodes, to cause ablation of the stratum corneum primarily in an area intermediate the respective points.